

CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

Title of publication: bakyard

Other known title(s): Not stated

OFLC ref: 1900104.001

Medium: Image File

Publisher: Not stated

Country of origin: Not stated

Language: English

Applicant: Commissioner of Police

Classification:	Objectionable.
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Descriptive note: None

Display conditions: None

Date of entry in Register: 30 May 2019

Date of direction to issue a label: No direction to issue a label has been issued

Date of notice of decision: 29 May 2019

Summary of reasons for decision:

The image file explicitly depicts child characters from 'The Simpsons' television series engaged in sexual activity. The image does not promote and support the exploitation of children under s3(2)(a) of the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993, but it does deal with sexual conduct involving children to a high extent and degree. It has the clear potential for attitudinal harm, by perpetuating the idea that sexual conduct involving children is a subject of titillation and amusement. There is a strong likelihood of injury to the public good from the trivialisation of such behaviour and attitudes, which is likely to have a detrimental effect on wider society. The classification of objectionable interferes with the right to freedom of expression as affirmed by the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990, but is justifiable given the high risk of injury to the public good which cannot be adequately prevented by an age restriction.